

News Release



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South Yuba River State Park Independence Trail Closed Due to Sinkhole until April 4th

State Parks officials discovered an approximate six by six foot sink hole at the entrance of the Independence Trail on Thursday. The sinkhole's location is directly west of the Highway 49 trailhead. The hole has completely blocked the western entrance of one of South Yuba River State Park's favorite trails. State Park staff attempted to immediately repair the damage but they were unable to find a sustainable solution due to the extensive nature of the damage.

Park Superintendent Matthew Green said, "We tried an immediate fix but we quickly discovered that we needed a long term solution in order to prevent future damage". Green said that the trail has been undercut by water draining from a nearby hillside and it would cause further damage if they didn't implement a permanent solution.

State Park staff advised they have already assessed the damage and are purchasing materials to start immediate work in order to get the trail open in time for spring hikes. Superintendent Green said, "We recognize the importance of the trail and the need to get it open as soon as possible". Park staff estimate that the work could take up to a month and hope to have the trail open by April 4th.

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California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov

